

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joyce S. Plested et al.  
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Art Unit : Unknown  
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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 19, line 16 has been amended as follows:

A1  
--Figure 10a illustrates ELISA titres of antibodies to *L3 gale* LPS (IgG) in paired sera taken early and late from children with invasive meningococcal disease, and Figure 10b illustrates means % phagocytosis of *Neisseria meningitidis* MC58 with paired sera taken early and late from children with invasive meningococcal disease with human peripheral blood mononuclear cells and human complement; --

Paragraph beginning at page 55, line 7 has been amended as follows:

A2  
--We present data on three paired sera taken from infants early (acute) and later (convalescent) during culture confirmed invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) that resulted from infection with *Neisseria meningitidis* isolates of immunotypes L1, L3 (MAb b5 reactive) (patients 1 and 2) and L2 immunotype (MAb B5 non-reactive) (patient 3) (Figures 10a and 10b).

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Heroy Jenkins